

Agenda Date: 11/08/01

Agenda Item: 3F

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center

Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

CABLE TELEVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF CABLEVISION OF NEW JERSEY, INC. FOR PENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION DOCKET NO. CE01081521 SYSTEM IN THE BOROUGH OF HARRINGTON PARK, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Schenck, Price, Smith & King, Morristown, New Jersey, by James Eric Andrews, Esq., for the Petitioner.

Borough Clerk, Borough of Harrington Park, New Jersey, by Don Horsey, for the Borough.

BY THE BOARD1:

On November 7, 1980, the Board granted Cablevision of New Jersey, Inc. ("Petitioner") a Certificate of Approval in Docket No. 808C-6711 for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Borough of Harrington Park ("Borough"). On December 24, 1991, the Board granted the Petitioner a Renewal Certificate of Approval in Docket No. CE91050956. The Petitioner's Certificate expired on November 7, 2000. However, it is authorized to continue to provide cable television service to the Borough pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25.

The Petitioner filed an application for the renewal of its municipal consent with the Borough on February 4, 2000, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-23 and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13. The Borough, after public hearing, adopted a municipal ordinance and an amended municipal consent ordinance

¹ Commissioner Carol J. Murphy did not participate in the deliberations or vote on this matter.

on the same date, April 17, 2001, which granted renewal consent to the Petitioner. On June 14, 2001, the Petitioner formally accepted the terms and conditions of the ordinance and the amended ordinance, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:5A-24.

On August 17, 2001, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16, the Petitioner filed with the Board for a renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Borough. The Board has reviewed the application for municipal consent, the petition for a Renewal Certificate of Approval and the municipal consent ordinance and amending municipal consent ordinance. Based upon this review and the recommendation of the Office of Cable Television, the Board HEREBY FINDS the following:

- 1. The Petitioner possesses the requisite legal, character, financial and technical qualifications for the awarding of a Renewal Certificate of Approval. Further, the Borough reviewed these qualifications in conjunction with the municipal consent process. See N.J.S.A. 48:5A-22 to 29 and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.
- 2. The design and technical specifications of the system shall ensure that the Petitioner provides safe, adequate and proper service.
- 3. The Petitioner has represented that all previously required construction within the franchise territory is complete.
- 4. The franchise period as stated in the ordinance is seven years from the date of issuance of this Certificate. The Board finds this period to be of reasonable duration.
- 5. The Petitioner's rates shall be regulated and tariffs shall be filed for all services, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, the Board and the Office of Cable Television. The Petitioner shall maintain informational tariffs for unregulated service rates and promptly file any revisions thereto.
- 6. Pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:5A-26(b), the ordinance specifies a complaint officer. In this case, it is the Office of Cable Television. All complaints shall be received and processed in accordance with <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:17-6.5.
- 7. The Petitioner shall maintain a local business office or agent for the purpose of receiving, investigating and resolving complaints. The current local office is located at 5 Legion Drive in the Borough of Cresskill.
- 8. The franchise fee to be paid to the Borough is specified to be 2% of the Petitioner's gross revenues from all recurring charges in the nature of subscription fees paid by subscribers for its cable television reception service in the Borough. Additional regulatory fees shall be paid to the State in an amount not to exceed 2% of Petitioner's gross operating revenues derived from intrastate operations. The Board finds these fees to be reasonable.

- The Petitioner shall install cable in all residences in residentially zoned areas in the Borough at tariffed rates for standard and non-standard installation.
 Commercial establishments and residents living in commercially zoned areas shall be constructed in accordance with the line extension policy ("LEP") attached to this Certificate as Appendix "I". The minimum homes per mile figure is 20.
- 10. The Petitioner shall provide public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access channels and facilities in accordance with its renewal application and the ordinance. Specifically, the Petitioner shall provide a channel for PEG access use.
- 11. The Petitioner maintains an access studio for use by any resident, individual or group residing in the community for production of non-commercial locally oriented programming. The Petitioner also maintains some portable production equipment available on a first-come, first-served basis for production of non-commercial PEG access programming. The Petitioner provides free training courses for residents who wish to use the studio and/or the PEG access production equipment.
- 12. The Petitioner shall provide the standard installation and monthly basic service, free of charge, to: a) all state or locally accredited public schools; b) all public libraries; and c) municipal buildings within the Borough.

Based upon these findings, the Board HEREBY CONCLUDES, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-17(a) and 28(c), that the Petitioner has sufficient financial and technical capacity and meets the legal, character and other qualifications necessary to construct, maintain and operate the necessary installations, lines and equipment and is capable of providing the proposed service in a safe, adequate and proper manner.

Therefore, the Petitioner is HEREBY ISSUED this Renewal Certificate of Approval as evidence of Petitioner's authority to construct and operate a cable television system within the entirety of the Borough.

This Renewal Certificate is subject to all applicable State and federal laws, the rules and regulations of the Office of Cable Television, and any such lawful terms, conditions and limitations as currently exist or may hereafter be attached to the exercise of the privileges granted herein.

The Petitioner shall adhere to the operating standards set forth by the Federal Communications Commission's rules and regulations, 47 <u>C.F.R.</u> Section 76.1 <u>et seq</u>. Any modifications to the provisions thereof shall be incorporated into this Certificate. Additionally and more specifically, the Petitioner shall adhere to the technical standards of 47 <u>C.F.R.</u> Part 76, Subpart K.

Failure to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and orders of the Board or Office of Cable Television and/or the terms, conditions and limitations set forth herein may constitute sufficient grounds for the suspension or revocation of this Certificate.

This Renewal Certificate is issued on the representation that the statements contained in the Petitioner's applications are true, and the undertakings therein contained shall be adhered to and

enforceable unless specific waiver is granted by the Office of Cable Television pursuant to the authority contained in N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.

This Certificate shall expire seven years from the date of this Order.

DATED:	November 8, 2001	BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:
		(signed)
		CONNIE O. HUGHES PRESIDENT
		(signed)
		FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER
ATTEST:		
(signed)		
FRANCES L. BOARD SEC		